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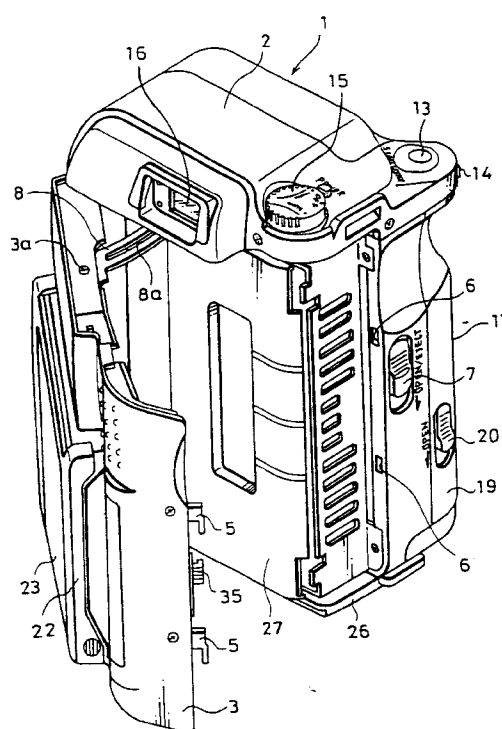
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(54) **Cassette eject mechanism, battery loading mechanism and mechanical chassis supporting mechanism**

(57) A cassette eject mechanism for a recording or reproducing apparatus can remove a cassette eject button from a housing and can reliably eject a tape cassette only when a tape cassette should be loaded or unloaded. A battery loading mechanism for an electronic equipment can make the loading of battery simple and reliable, and becomes easy to handle. The locking mechanism can be simplified in structure so that the number of assembly parts can considerably be reduced. Further, a mechanical chassis supporting mechanism in a recording apparatus is for use with an apparatus in which a mechanical chassis or cabinet can be reduced in thickness. According to this mechanical chassis supporting mechanism, it is possible to prevent an external stress from being applied to the mechanical chassis as a twisting deform force.

FIG. 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 6101

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	US-A-5 121 268 (S.NAKAYAMA) * column 3, line 45 - column 5, line 66; figures * ---	1,2	G11B31/00 G11B33/12 G11B33/02 G11B15/675
X	EP-A-0 393 647 (SONY CORP.) * abstract; claims 1-11; figures * ---	1-4,6,7	G11B25/06 H01M2/10 G11B33/08
X	GB-A-2 241 371 (SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO. LTD.) * abstract; figures * * page 5, line 6 - page 6, line 8 * ---	1	
A	EP-A-0 401 475 (PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORP.) * column 9, line 31 - line 48; figures * ---	1	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 17, no. 238 (E-1363), 13 May 1993 & JP-A-04 365270 (CANON INC.), 17 December 1992, * abstract * ---	1	
A	EP-A-0 522 330 (CANON K.K.) * column 4, line 47 - column 7, line 2; figures * ---	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) G11B H01M
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 11, no. 312 (E-548), 12 October 1987 & JP-A-62 105579 (SONY CORP.), 16 May 1987, * abstract * ---	9,10	
A	EP-A-0 528 420 (SONY CORP) 24 February 1993 * column 17, line 4 - column 18, line 23; figures 5,6 * --- -/--	9	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 7 October 1996	Examiner Declat, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and those claims for which fees have been
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of the unity of the invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims
- ☐ Only part of the further claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respects of which search fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,
namely claims:



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 6101

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CL.6)
A	US-A-4 853 302 (YAMANAKA AKIRA ET AL) 1 August 1989 * abstract; figures *	9,10	
A	US-A-4 468 439 (OHARA TSUNEMASA ET AL) 28 August 1984 * abstract; figures *	9,10	
A	GB-A-2 011 156 (PHILIPS NV) 4 July 1979 * abstract; figures *	9-12	
A	EP-A-0 541 449 (SONY CORP) 12 May 1993 * column 1, line 18 - column 4, line 51 * * abstract; figures *	13	
A	WO-A-93 06589 (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 1 April 1993 * abstract; figures *	13	
A	EP-A-0 519 456 (CANON KK) 23 December 1992 * column 8, line 7 - column 11, line 35; figures 6-8 *	13	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CL.6)
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 7 October 1996	Examiner Declat, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EP 94 30 6101 -B-

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-8 : Cassette eject mechanism for a recording or reproducing apparatus.
2. Claims 9-12 : Battery loading mechanism for an electronic equipment.
3. Claims 13-20 : Mechanical chassis supporting mechanism in a recording or reproducing apparatus.